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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 /063 W
----------000019 071255Z /45
O R 071215Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8279
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CY, US
SUBJECT: KYPRIANOU BRIEFS PRESS ON NIMETZ VISIT

REF: NICOSIA 2275

1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU BRIEFED PRESS SEPT. 6, ON NON ATTRIBUTABLE BASIS, ON GOC THINKING IN WAKE OF VISIT BY COUNSELOR NIMETZ. ALL GREEK CYPRIOT PAPERS SEPT. 7 CARRY PROMINENT REPORTS BASED ON BRIEFING, CITING ONLY "AUTHORITATIVE CIRCLES." FOLLOWING ARE IMPORTANT POINTS:
--GOC WILL APPEAL TO SECURITY COUNCIL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS AND WILL RAISE QUESTION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST TURKEY. TIMING OF APPEAL WILL DEPEND ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S TALKS WITH WORLD LEADERS AT UNGA IN LATE SEPTEMBER.
--COUNSELOR NIMETZ BROUGHT NO "PLAN" AND EXERTED NO PRESSURES; HIS VIST WAS PURELY EXPORATORY AND HE GAVE ASSURANCES THAT U.S. WOULD WORK WITHIN UN FRAMEWORK. HE EMPHASIZED NEED TO BREAK DEADLOCK THROUGH RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. VISIT WAS AN "ENIGMA" IN SENSE THAT NIMETZ MADE NO NEW PROPOSALS AND BROUGHT NO NEW IDEAS.
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-- ONE OF OBJECTS OF NIMETZ VISIT WAS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY CHANGE IN STAND OF GOC. IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO HIM THAT THERE HAD BEEN ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGE.
-- GOC CONTINUES TO BELIEVE U.S. IS IN A POSITION TO EXERT EFFECTIVE PRESSURE ON TURKEY AND CANNOT BE RELIEVED OF ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO DO SO.
-- NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF TURKISH SIDE WAS CONFIRMED AT TALKS WHICH

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TURKISH SECRETARY GENERAL OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ELEKDAG HAD IN
WASHINGTON LAST MONTH. NIMETZ CHARACTERIZED TURKS AS
"DIFFICULT PEOPLE" TO DEAL WITH.

2. EDITORIAL TREATMENT OF WIND-UP OF NIMETZ VISIT WAS LIGHT
AND MIXED. MIDDLE-ROAD PHILELEFTHEROS EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NIMETZ
VISIT WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY AMERICAN INITIATIVES WHICH SHOULD NOT
BE PREJUDGED. PRO-GOVERNMENT ELEFTHERI KYPROS SAID
MEANING OF NIMETZ VISIT WAS THAT U.S. SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN PRETEXT
OF BEING INTERESTED IN PROGRESS ON CYPRUS BUT WAS NOT WILLING TO
PRESSURE TURKEY. SOCIALIST TA NEA SAID THAT PURPOSE OF NIMETZ
VISIT WAS TO PERMIT PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRETEND HE WAS TAKING
INTEREST IN CYPRUS ROBLEM
STONE

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